

REMARKS

Responsive to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office action, Applicants affirm election of the claims of group I, claims 33-64, drawn to a method of stabilizing body-care and household products utilizing a phenolic antioxidant of formula (1) for examination. This election is made without traverse. Claims 33, 47 and 61 have therefore been delimited to compounds of formula (1) without prejudice to applicants' rights to file subsequent divisional applications to the non-elected subject matter. No new matter has been added.

Responsive to the election of species requirement set forth in the Office action, the compound of the formula (7) on page 8 is elected for initial examination. It is believed that claims 33-41 and 47-64 are readable thereon.

On finding claims directed to the elected compound to be allowable, withdrawal of the election requirement and consideration of the patentability of the remainder of the Markush group is also respectfully solicited.

Applicants note that a certified copy of their EP priority application is not listed as received on the Acceptance Notification. Since this is a PCT National Stage application, it is the responsibility of the International Bureau, not applicants, to furnish such documents. The examiner is therefore requested to contact the International Bureau for a copy of said EP priority application if it is indeed missing from the file.

An examination on the merits of all the claims is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time

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